

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 and AMEND claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, and 20 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support system comprising:
a salesperson terminal that determines an amount to be paid operated by a salesperson; and
an electronic-payment support apparatus including
an amount registration unit that registers at a website the amount informed from the salesperson terminal;
an electronic-payment method registration unit that registers at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and
an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;
a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet; and
a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein
the website includes
a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and
a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites, and
the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support system comprising:
a salesperson terminal that has a mechanism to access a website operated by a salesperson; and
an electronic-payment support apparatus including
an amount registration unit that registers at the website an amount to be paid and an electronic payment method informed from a customer mobile terminal operated by a customer;
a notification unit that notifies the salesperson of the amount and the electronic payment method when the salesperson accesses the website by operating the salesperson terminal; and
an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;
a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and
a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein
the website includes
a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and
a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites, and
the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

4. (CANCELLED)

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support system comprising:
a salesperson terminal that has a mechanism to access a website operated by a salesperson; and
an electronic-payment support apparatus including
an amount registration unit that registers at the website the amount to be

paid based on a pre-registered schedule;

an electronic-payment method registration unit that registers at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount;

a notification unit that notifies the salesperson of the amount and the electronic payment method via the salesperson terminal when the salesperson accesses the website by operating the salesperson terminal; and

an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;

a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and

a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein

the website includes

a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and

a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites, and

the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

6. (CANCELLED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support system comprising:
a salesperson terminal that has a mechanism to read bar code information of a product operated by a salesperson; and

an electronic-payment support apparatus including

an amount registration unit that searches from point-of-sales information an amount to be paid based on the bar code information notified from the salesperson terminal, and registers the amount at a website;

an electronic-payment method registration unit that registers at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-

payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and

an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;

a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and

a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein

the website includes

a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and

a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites, and

the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

8. (CANCELLED)

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support method comprising:
providing a plurality of store sites and a portal site in website, each of the store sites including a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers being associated with each salesperson, and the portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites;

allowing the customer mobile terminal to access the portal site and allowing the salesperson terminal to access one of the store sites associated with the salesperson terminal
controlling communication with a salesperson terminal through a first Internet and
communication with a customer mobile terminal through a second Internet;

registering at a website an amount informed from a salesperson terminal that is operated by a salesperson;

registering at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and

making an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the

electronic payment method.

10. (CANCELLED)

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support method comprising:
providing a plurality of store sites and a portal site in website, each of the store sites
including a plurality of cashiers each of the cashiers being associated with each salesperson,
and the portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store
sites;

allowing the customer mobile terminal to access the portal site and allowing the
salesperson terminal to access one of the store sites associated with the salesperson terminal;
controlling communication with a salesperson terminal through a first Internet and
communication with a customer mobile terminal through a second Internet;

registering at a website an amount to be paid and an electronic payment method
informed from a customer mobile terminal that is operated by a customer;

notifying a salesperson of the amount and the electronic payment method when
the salesperson accesses the website by operating the salesperson terminal; and

making an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the
electronic payment method.

12. (CANCELLED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support method comprising:
providing a plurality of store sites and a portal site in website, each of the store sites
including a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers being associated with each salesperson,
and the portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store
sites;

allowing a customer mobile terminal to access the portal site and allowing a salesperson
terminal to access one of the store sites associated with the salesperson terminal;

controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and
communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet;

registering at the website an amount to be paid based on a pre-registered
schedule;

registering at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a

customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount;

notifying a salesperson of the amount and the electronic payment method via a salesperson terminal when the salesperson accesses the website by operating the salesperson terminal; and

making an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method.

14. (CANCELLED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support method comprising:
providing a plurality of store sites and a portal site in website, each of the store sites including a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers being associated with each salesperson, and the portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites;

allowing a customer mobile terminal to access the portal site and allowing a salesperson terminal to access one of the store sites associated with the salesperson terminal;

controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet;

searching from point-of-sales information an amount to be paid based on bar code information notified from a salesperson terminal;

registering the amount at a website;

registering at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and

making an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method.

16. (CANCELLED)

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support apparatus comprising:
an amount registration unit that registers at a website the amount informed from a salesperson terminal that is operated by a salesperson;

an electronic-payment method registration unit that registers at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and

an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;

a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and

a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein

the website includes

a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and

a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites, and

the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support apparatus comprising:

an amount registration unit that registers at a website an amount to be paid and an electronic payment method informed from a customer mobile terminal that is operated by a customer;

a notification unit that notifies a salesperson of the amount and the electronic payment method when the salesperson accesses the website by operating the salesperson terminal; and

an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;

a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and

a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein

the website includes
a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of
the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and
a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store
sites, and
the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile
terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic-payment support apparatus comprising:
an amount registration unit that registers at a website an amount to be paid based
on a pre-registered schedule;

an electronic-payment method registration unit that registers at the website, when
a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment
method specified by the customer for the amount;

a notification unit that notifies a salesperson of the amount and the electronic
payment method via a salesperson terminal when the salesperson accesses the website by
operating the salesperson terminal; and

an electronic payment unit that makes an external payment system execute the
electronic payment based on the electronic payment method;

a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson
terminal and the customer mobile terminal, the first communication controller controlling
communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the
customer mobile terminal through a second Internet; and

a second communication controller for controlling access to the electronic payment unit,
wherein

the website includes
a plurality of store sites, each of the store sites includes a plurality of cashiers, each of
the cashiers is associated with each salesperson, and
a portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store
sites, and
the portal site and the plurality of store sites are accessed by the customer mobile
terminal and the salesperson terminal respectively.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program for supporting an electronic

payment, making a computer execute:

providing a plurality of store sites and a portal site in website, each of the store sites including a plurality of cashiers, each of the cashiers being associated with each salesperson, and the portal site having a function of a gateway site as an entrance to the plurality of store sites;

allowing a customer mobile terminal to access the portal site and allowing a salesperson terminal to access one of the store sties associated with the salesperson terminal;

controlling communication with the salesperson terminal through a first Internet and communication with the customer mobile terminal through a second Internet;

registering at a website an amount informed from a salesperson terminal that is operated by a salesperson;

registering at the website, when a customer accesses the website from a customer mobile terminal, an electronic-payment method specified by the customer for the amount; and

making an external payment system execute the electronic payment based on the electronic payment method.